Blue Ridge Elementary School
995 South Oak Street
Seneca, SC 29678

2015

South Carolina
State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

Grades:	PK-5 Elementary	**Principal:**	Lisa Simmons
Enrollment:	639 students	**Superintendent:**	Dr. Michael Thorsland
School Phone:	864-886-4550	**Board Chair:**	Andy Inabinet
School Website:	http://www.oconee.k12.sc.us/BlueRidge.cfm		

Profile of the SC Graduate

World Class Knowledge
- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills
- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics
- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.
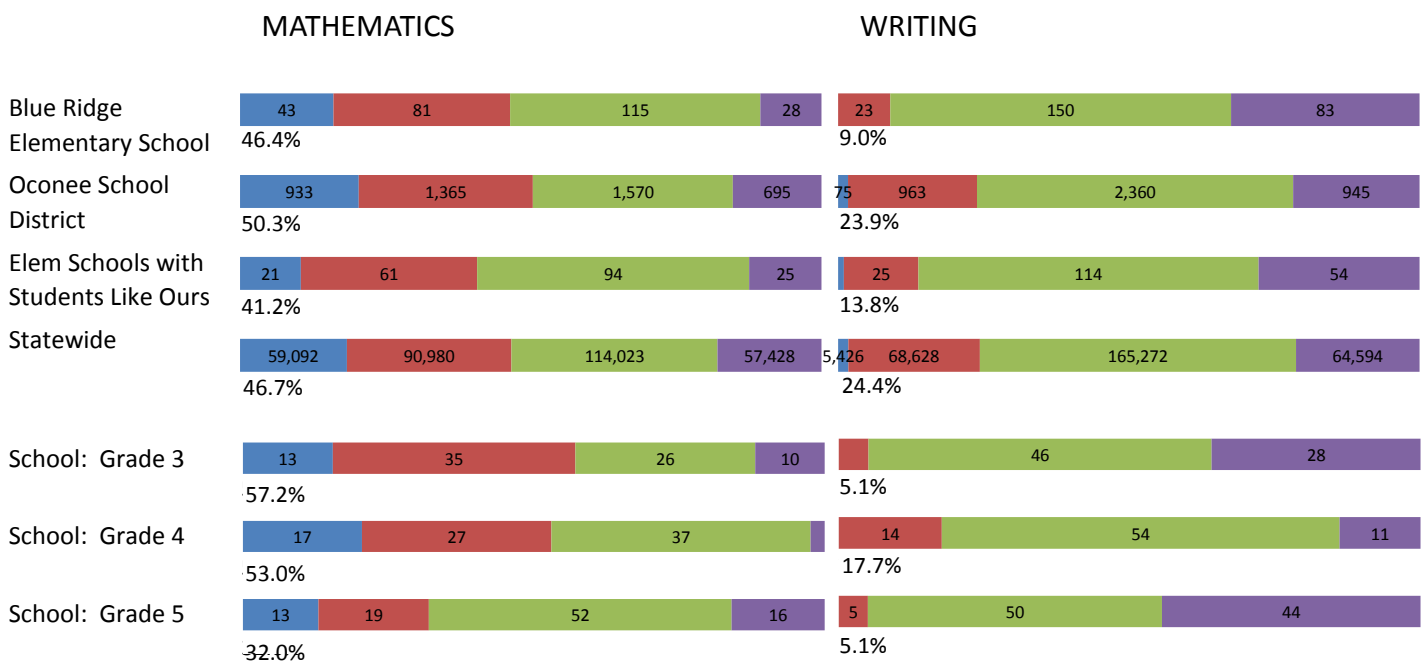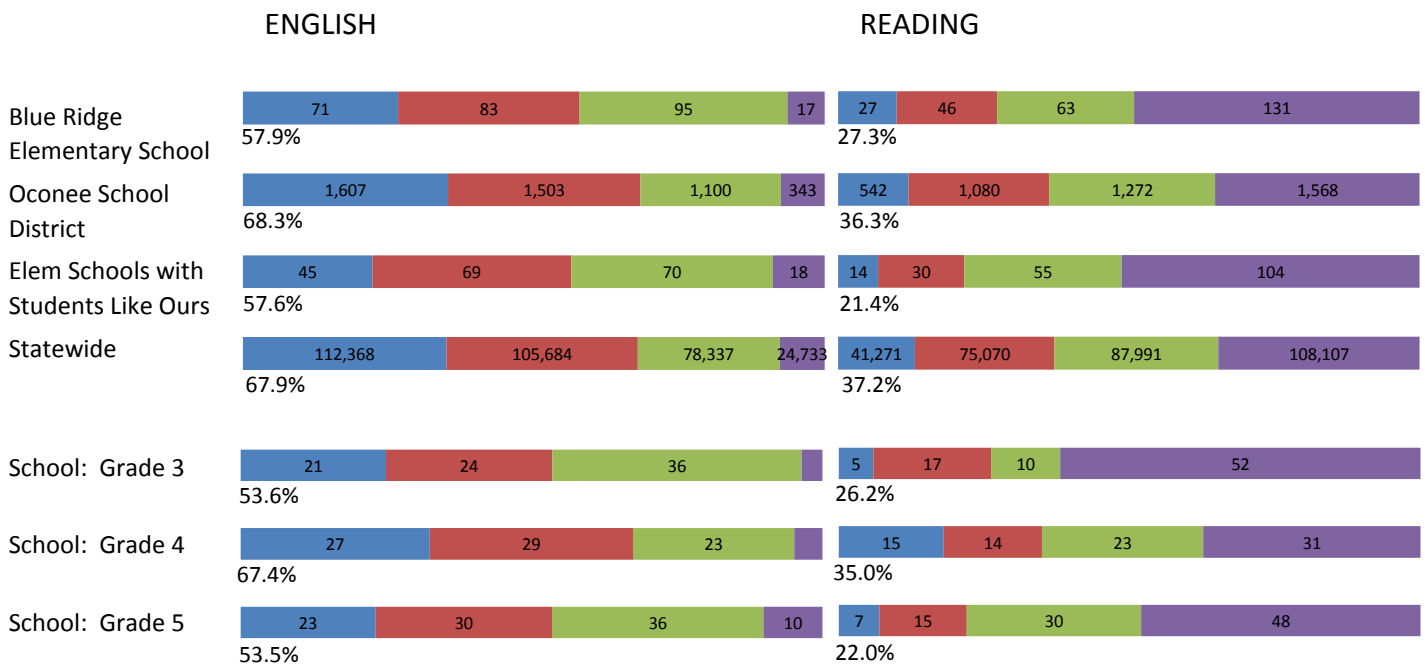
WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by …

Blue Ridge Elementary School is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by challenging our students and meeting their individual needs. Our school's mission is to provide a safe and respectful environment where children and learning come first. We support this mission by giving students the opportunity to learn how to communicate effectively, solve problems competently, think critically and creatively, and act responsibly. The teachers at Blue Ridge Elementary continue to learn about effective strategies to use in the classroom such as: The Daily 5, balanced literacy, STEM, EnVision Mathematics, RAZ Kids, workstations, and small group guided reading and math instruction. The following programs are used for reading and math intervention: EnVision RTI Program, LLI, Reading Recovery, and Early Reading Intervention. Fountas and Pinnell benchmark reading assessments are used to assess each student's reading level. Finally, as we grow our 1:1 classroom technology, our teachers continue to learn how to effectively implement instructional technology. At Blue Ridge Elementary we have also implemented non-academic programs that emphasize growing the whole child. School-wide we focused on implementing the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program. This program rewards students for exhibiting positive behaviors. We partnered with a fraternity at Clemson University to create our RIDGE Mentoring Program to provide positive role models for students. We continued to offer Breakfast in the Classroom to feed students a free healthy breakfast each day. Select students also participated in the Education Foundation of Oconee County's BackPack Program and received weekend food support. Our guidance counselors implemented the Chick-fil-A Core Essentials Character Education program. Through the SC Dogs Therapy Group, students who struggle with reading were given the opportunity to read to therapy dogs. Our SIC helped bring the community into the school by sponsoring our Pancake Breakfast Event and Family Movie Night. Our school was also awarded the "Safe Kids Safe School Award" through Safe-Kids Upstate. At Blue Ridge we believe that if you have the desire to be the BEST, you also have the power to make it happen. Therefore, it takes the school, family, and community working together to help our students succeed. Thank you for your commitment to making Blue Ridge Elementary School the BEST! Mr. Casey Bowling, School Improvement Council Chair Mrs. Lisa Simmons, Principal

KNOWLEDGE

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing

ENGLISH

Group	Exceeding	Ready	Close	In Need of Support
Blue Ridge Elementary School	71	83	95	17
57.9%				
Oconee School District	1,607	1,503	1,100	343
68.3%				
Elem Schools with Students Like Ours	45	69	70	18
57.6%				
Statewide	112,368	105,684	78,337	24,733
67.9%				
School: Grade 3	21	24	36	
53.6%				
School: Grade 4	27	29	23	
67.4%				
School: Grade 5	23	30	36	10
53.5%				

READING

Group	Exceeding	Ready	Close	In Need of Support
Blue Ridge Elementary School	27	46	63	131
27.3%				
Oconee School District	542	1,080	1,272	1,568
36.3%				
Elem Schools with Students Like Ours	14	30	55	104
21.4%				
Statewide	41,271	75,070	87,991	108,107
37.2%				
School: Grade 3	5	17	10	52
26.2%				
School: Grade 4	15	14	23	31
35.0%				
School: Grade 5	7	15	30	48
22.0%				

MATHEMATICS

Group	Exceeding	Ready	Close	In Need of Support
Blue Ridge Elementary School	43	81	115	28
46.4%				
Oconee School District	933	1,365	1,570	695
50.3%				
Elem Schools with Students Like Ours	21	61	94	25
41.2%				
Statewide	59,092	90,980	114,023	57,428
46.7%				
School: Grade 3	13	35	26	10
57.2%				
School: Grade 4	17	27	37	
53.0%				
School: Grade 5	13	19	52	16
32.0%				

WRITING

Group	Exceeding	Ready	Close	In Need of Support
Blue Ridge Elementary School		23	150	83
9.0%				
Oconee School District	75	963	2,360	945
23.9%				
Elem Schools with Students Like Ours		25	114	54
13.8%				
Statewide	5,426	68,628	165,272	64,594
24.4%				
School: Grade 3			46	28
5.1%				
School: Grade 4		14	54	11
17.7%				
School: Grade 5		5	50	44
5.1%				

ACT Readiness Levels

Results for groups with 4 or fewer students are not shown

Exceeding	Ready	Close	In Need of Support
	1872	342	256

76%

% Exceeding and Ready

Student Counts

Abbreviations for Missing Data

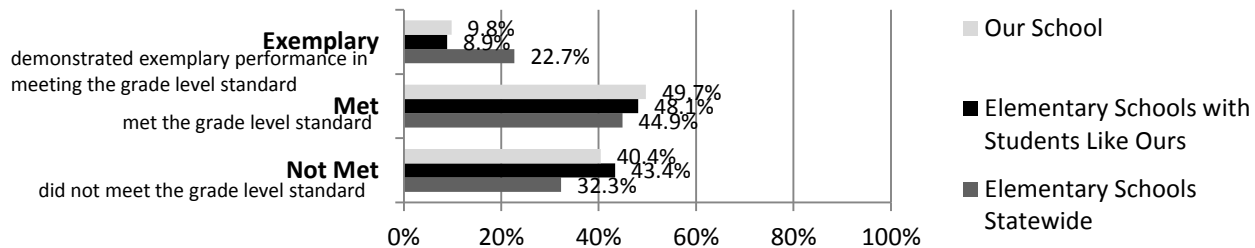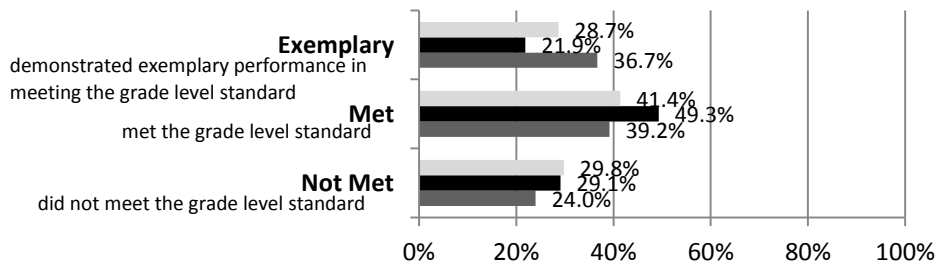N/A-Not Applicable   N/AV-Not Available   N/C-Not Collected   N/R-Not Reported   I/S-Insufficient Sample

KNOWLEDGE

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

Science

Exemplary
demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard
- 9.8%
- 8.9%
- 22.7%

Met
met the grade level standard
- 49.7%
- 48.1%
- 44.9%

Not Met
did not meet the grade level standard
- 40.4%
- 43.4%
- 32.3%

Legend:
- Our School
- Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours
- Elementary Schools Statewide

Social Studies

Exemplary
demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard
- 28.7%
- 21.9%
- 36.7%

Met
met the grade level standard
- 41.4%
- 49.3%
- 39.2%

Not Met
did not meet the grade level standard
- 29.8%
- 29.1%
- 24.0%

Science SCPASS	
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level	
4th grade	5th grade
63.9	56.0
Social Studies SCPASS	
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level	
4th grade	5th grade
85.4	57.6

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary   **"Exemplary"**: student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.

Met   **"Met"**: student met the grade level standard.

Not Met   **"Not Met"**: student did not meet the grade level standard.

Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

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OPPORTUNITIES

For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 639)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	87.0	Down from 88.7%	N/A
Attendance Rate	95.6	Down from 96.0%	95.4
With disabilities	18.2	Down from 18.7%	13.2
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	No change	0.0
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	7.8	Up from 7.0%	4.5
Percentage of students retained	0.7	Down from 1.6%	1.4
Teachers (n = 57)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	61.4	Up from 60.7%	60.0
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	77.2	Down from 80.4%	77.5
Teachers returning from previous year	89.4	Down from 91.2%	85.4
Teacher attendance rate	92.1	Down from 92.9%	94.9
Average teacher salary*	$48,797	Down 0.8%	$46,581
Professional development days / teacher	8.9 days	Up from 8.8 days	11.0 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	1.2
School			
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.9 to 1	Up from 17.1 to 1	19.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.9	Down from 87.2%	89.2
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	88.8	Down from 98.9%	100.0
Character development program	Good	No change	Excellent
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	17.0	N/A	15.1
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	31.9	N/A	27.9
Bandwidth capacity per student	N/A	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	N/A	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	N/A	N/C	0.8
District-issued technology devices per teacher	N/A	N/C	2.0
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0	No change	0.0
Dollars spent per pupil**	$9,925	Up 7.0%	$8,386
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	71.0	Up from 70.8%	65.2
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	72.0	Up from 71.2%	66.7

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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OPPORTUNITIES

Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents

Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	53	102	47
Percent satisfied with learning environment	98.1	88.2	82.9
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	98.1	82.5	85.7
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	84.9	90.1	75.5

* Only students at the highest elementary school grade and their parents were included.

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Good
2013	Average	Good
2012	Average	Average

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

Additional Resources

SC State Content Standards

Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards

2014-15 Accountability Manual

Report Card Data Files

ESEA Data Files

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